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13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

14. ABSTRACT

The overall goal of this Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) proposed program (through Phase III) is to develop a novel Portable Fuel Quality Analyzer capable of identifying diesel or jet fuels and predicting their performance properties. The Phase I program measured ~100 fuels using both dispersive and FT-near infrared analyzers. These analyzers measure the vibrational modes of the chemical composition of the fuels. This chemical information can be used to identify fuel type and determine performance properties. The Phase I measurements identified the best spectral resolution, spectral region and sample path length to differentiate between diesel and jet fuels, as well as to determine cetane index density, distillation values, flash point, and viscosity. This information will be used to design a prototype during the Phase I Option, which will be built and tested in the Phase II Program.

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NUMBER(S) #24476

11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT

## **Portable Fuel Quality Analyzer**

Contract Number: W56HZV-13-C-0296
PI: Dr. Stuart Farquharson (860-635-9800, stu@rta.biz),
Company: Real-Time Analyzers, Inc.

## **Project Summary**

The overall goal of this Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) proposed program (through Phase III) is to develop a novel Portable Fuel Quality Analyzer capable of identifying diesel or jet fuels and predicting their performance properties. The Phase I program measured ~100 fuels using both dispersive and FT-near infrared analyzers. These analyzers measure the vibrational modes of the chemical composition of the fuels. This chemical information can be used to identify fuel type and determine performance properties. The Phase I measurements identified the best spectral resolution, spectral region and sample path length to differentiate between diesel and jet fuels, as well as to determine cetane index, density, distillation values, flash point, and viscosity. This information will be used to design a prototype during the Phase I Option, which will be built and tested in the Phase II Program.

The goal of the Phase II program will be to evaluate the ability of two prototype PFQAs to identify diesel or jet fuels and predict their properties. This will be accomplished by building the prototypes, measuring 600 fuel samples, developing and testing comprehensive chemometric models, performing environmental tests, and delivering the prototypes with user friendly software and providing training to US Army personnel.

The Portable Fuel Quality Analyzer will allow Army personnel to quickly determine fuel quality in the field, such as at the point of use. The PFQA can be widely used by all DOD require rapid analysis of fuel quality. This includes the entire shipping industry.

The PFQA will have immediate dual-use at major airports and seaports to rapidly check fuel quality. It could also be used for other transportation industries, such as trucking. The PFQA could also be used in fuel blending operations performed at petroleum, ethanol and biodiesel plants.

